

3 March 1999

TRANSMISSION

Extracts from Letters Received from Poland During Period November 1926 to

November 1928

Address: Wysokowicki Blvd
Property Baden
Co. Andon

Wysokowicki Blvd
Grand Wysokowicki (Wysokowicki)
VL. Lachowice
N. 3 Kw. 8/

Andon is a small village in the Silesia and Silesian Hills (Silesian Mills - site).

The winter lasts more than six months and the temperatures go down to 37°. The people are engaged in the breaking up of the hills, in the building of roads and bridges. In spite of the height, the population suffers from heavy silversmiths and starvation. Even new born babies suffer these same silversmiths. The people live in barracks and the families are quartered in different sections of the barracks because the rooms are very small. The nearest railroad station to Andon is 270 Kilometers. Housings are very small. A month's pay for the removal of stones is about 300 rubles. A concession is made in the letter with concessions in Ostrz by women for working on potatoe crops at 300 rubles for 16 days. The working hours are from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and the place of work is located 35 kilometers away, so that one travels 70 kilometers to and from work each day. Women work right along with the men in the removal of stones, digging for bridge foundations and cutting down of forests.

Products such as the following are brought (transported) to the stores: flour, groats, sugar, bread. From time to time the settlers from more distant areas bring in tomatoes to exchange for wild berries. The people are permitted to raise hogs and chickens for their own use. There are no cows because there is no feed for them but it is possible to buy milk from time to time. The settlers also try to cultivate gardens and plant potatoes which don't always ripen because they are damaged by frost. For example, in 1957 potatoes were planted in early July or late June but in mid July there was a heavy frost and before the potatoes had a chance to start growing all over again there was another frost on August 16, so that by September 12 the potatoes had to be all dug up because of the freezing temperatures and snow. (Out of 22 buckets of potatoes planted, the yield was 120 buckets.) The month of August was mostly fair and warm. During this month the older settlers who do not work, pick berries in the Silesia which they either sell or use in trading for other products. One woman sold 300 rubles worth of berries in addition to the ones she gathered and preserved for her family's use during the winter months. The berries are: blue (ompson) agaric, the size of peas, suitable for cooking; mountain cranberries, red and small as pepper, can be stored all winter, is used as jam and does not require sugar.

HOLUBIKA

Original filed in
Admistrative file
and one copy to SR/6

The prices paid in Minusinsk for some imported articles:

Wrist watch, Swiss, make: "Oris"	- approximately 400 rubles
Sweater	- approximately 200-300 rubles
Silk hand scarfs	- approximately 200-300 rubles
Woolen yard materials	- highest prices

Don't mail any shoe leather because there are no cobblers here. The shoe makers are located way out in the taiga.

Original Submitted by ARCASSORARY-2
19 February 1979